

From: Sam Winch
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/10/01 6:15pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sirs/Madams:

The proposed Microsoft settlement is unfair to non-profit software organizations, such as Linux, Apache and SAMBA, which will be effectively killed if it goes through as proposed.

Although it has a nice, "feel-good" veneer to it--with computers going to poor schools--the proposed settlement also effectively grants Microsoft a license to establish a new monopoly in the education market, one of the only places where they have real competition from Apple.

I strongly suggest you reformulate the settlement in a way that actually punishes Microsoft rather than rewarding them for their years of predatory monopolistic behavior and years of putting other companies out of business.

A good settlement would open their source code to all software competitors (including non-profits), and to have them pay \$10 billion for computers that do NOT run their operating system, and for software NOT made by their company. I'm sure they could write a check for that much without blinking.

sincerely,

Dr. Samuel P. Winch
1507 Woodcrest Circle
Harrisburg, PA 17112

(Note: this opinion is personal and almost certainly does not reflect the opinion of my employer)